



MIAMI-MIAMI BEACH TRANSPORTATION CORRIDOR STUDY

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM

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MINUTES OF MEETING

MEETING DATE: June 20, 2002
MEETING TIME: 6 p.m.
MEETING PLACE: Miami Beach Botanical Garden, 2000 Convention Center Dr.
PREPARED BY: Aviva Baer
PERSONS IN ATTENDANCE: Attendance sheet attached
PURPOSE OF MEETING: Citizens Advisory Committee
MATERIALS PROVIDED: Agenda, minutes of previous meeting, Decision Document

Public Information Deputy Program Manager Aviva Baer of Communikatx called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. as neither of the co-chairs was able to attend. She briefly reviewed the purpose of the meeting, which was to recommend a Locally Preferred Alternative for Bay Link to the Miami-Dade County Metropolitan Planning Organization.

She then introduced MPO Program Manager Wilson Fernandez, who reviewed the alternatives that have been considered during the course of the study and have been incorporated into the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. He explained that in the second phase of the study the technology and route selected as the Locally Preferred Alternative will be examined and refined even further.

Parsons Brinckerhoff Deputy Project Manager Larry Foutz reviewed the evaluations of the individual alternatives. He then presented the recommendations as to preferred alternatives that have been received so far from community-based organizations.

David Kelsey said he has concerns about providing adequate parking for people who might come to Miami Beach and then use the light rail. Fernandez said planners are aware of that concern and the cost of parking structures has been included in the study.

Joe Fontana said the North Beach Development Corporation's unanimous recommendation was that the rail line should come directly to Miami Beach from the airport and should terminate at Fifth Street.

Frank Del Vecchio said that all of the Miami organizations who offered resolutions were in favor of Bay Link.

David Kelsey said there should be a mailing to all Miami Beach property owners regarding Bay Link, or that in the least Alton Road property owners should be contacted. Randall Robinson said the Miami Beach Community Development Corporation would assist in reaching Alton Road merchants to notify them of the Miami Beach Public Meeting to be held next week.

Foutz then showed examples of light rail and bus rapid transit technologies. He emphasized that Bay Link funds can be used to mitigate the loss of on-street parking along Alton Road.

There was a question as to how much input the Citizens Advisory Committee would have as the study continues towards the Final Environmental Impact Statement. Fernandez said there would be continuing consultation with the public. He said that “no-build” continues to be a viable option until construction begins.

Jeff Donnelly said he would like to see an A2-B3 alternative as long as there was two-way traffic in the A2 model.

Neisen Kasdin read the resolution of support from the Miami Design Preservation League further, which concludes by stating that MDPL “ encourages the MPO to look at a modified route for the B-3 alternative that would go West from Alton Road at 16th Street to West Avenue and then North on West Avenue to Dade Boulevard and then North on Dade Boulevard to Washington Avenue and then South on Washington Avenue to 17th Street; and further encourages consideration and study of providing Light Rail service to the east side of South Beach in the future.” He and Foutz showed that suggestion on the map and Ray Breslin commented that it would benefit the Cultural Campus by providing access.

Randall Robinson read the Flamingo Park Neighborhood Committee Position Statement which supports “a modified version of Alternative B3 for the Miami Beach portion” of Bay Link. He said that plan proposes a new option, pairing one-way tracks on 16 and 17 Streets. It also urges effective parking mitigation.

Laura Jamieson said parking is less of a problem when people use transit. She said the community must change its old way of thinking and consider the future.

Jeff Donnelly moved that the CAC recommend A2/B3 as its choice for the Locally Preferred Alternative. Ray Breslin seconded the motion. On a vote of 8-4 the motion carried. David Kelsey and Frank Del Vecchio asked to have it recorded that they abstained from voting. Kelsey said he couldn't support that proposal until Alton Road property managers are notified and agree to it. Del Vecchio was in agreement with Kelsey.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Please respond with any comments, errors or modifications within 10 days of receiving this memorandum. These minutes will be entered into the project records upon completion of the 10 days from June 21, 2002. For more information log on to www.miami-dade.fl.us/mpo/baylink.htm